ABSTRACT

Reading comprehension has been highlighted as a problem among students. The purpose of this research is to find out the difficulties encountered by students of Religious Studies Study Program, Faculty of Ushuluddin and Islamic Thought of UIN Raden Fatah Palembang in reading comprehension activities. The researcher used qualitative research and employed case study as a research method. Semi-structured interviews were used by the researcher to collect the data. 3 students from the second year were sampled for this study by using purposeful sampling. Thematic analysis was used to analyze the data. The results of this study indicate that in reading comprehension students encounter several difficulties, including (1) difficulty in making inference, (2) difficulty in finding word meaning, (3) environmental factors, (4) anxiety during reading, and (6) decoding or word recognition speed. The results of this study revealed that students of religious studies of UIN Raden Fatah Palembang had difficulties in reading comprehension.

Keywords: Reading comprehension, students' difficulties.